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Thursday, February 20 - Wednesday, February 26, 2014

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A right royal visit from the Countess of Wessex



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HERO LOCK KEEPER IN DRAMATIC RESCUE BID

Saves two from drowning in the Thames

ABINGDON'S resident lock keeper, whose job is under threat due to Environment Agency (EA) cuts, has rescued two people in separate incidents on the Thames this month.

Richard Hawkins helped a boater out of the river on Saturday before steering the narrowboat to safety and securing the vessel.

And just six days earlier, Richard had rescued a young boy who had slipped into the flood waters, and was in danger of being swept into the weir.

The news comes as the Environment Agency looks towards ending residential lock keeping on the Thames, and is holding a consultation meeting about the

By Adam Flinn

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redundancies today.

Frank Minal, regional officer for national trade union GMB, said: "Richard's actions vindicate the GMB view that resident lock keepers are essential to maintain safety on the Thames."

"There is a long history of resident lock keepers responding in minutes day and night to these sorts of incidents."

"This quick response undoubtedly saves lives, and these incidents make a mockery of managers at the EA claiming that abolishing residents keepers will not affect safety on the river."

"Richard's job at Abingdon Lock will disappear if the EA is allowed to implement plans to abolish resident keepers and replace them with contractors as

part of 10 per cent cutbacks.

"This will result in the response time to incidents increasing from minutes to an EA target of two hours."

The EA is looking to reduce their staff from 11,250 to 9,700 by October this year, as government funding for it is cut for 2014/15.

A spokesperson said: "The planned reductions in posts will not affect the Environment Agency's ability to respond to flooding incidents."

"The detail of how different teams within the EA will be affected is not yet finalised, so we will not comment further, but union, staff and customer engagement is planned."

"We are prioritising incident response above all other work. With this in mind, we will not be entering a formal consultation with staff until the current flooding has subsided."

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The Oxfordshire
Guardian Series is
published by
Taylor Newspapers Ltd.

Read this
paper online at
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Mother wants justice after death of Connor

Man, 20, appears in court charged with teen's murder

THE mother of 17-year-old Connor Tremble, who died after being stabbed in his Oxford flat, has said she wants "justice" for her son.

Thames Valley Police has charged 20-year-old William Blencowe from Banbury with Connor's murder.

Connor died in the John Radcliffe Hospital last Saturday, following an incident at Fairacres Road at 6.45pm on February 13. He was stabbed a number of times in the legs, chest and hands.

His mum Lisa said the loss of her son has "ripped [her] heart into pieces".

In a statement, she said: "Connor was a much-loved son, big brother, nephew and grandson."

"His death has ripped my heart into pieces and I feel I have been robbed of something priceless."

"I want justice for Connor and to appeal for anybody with information regarding his death to come forward."

"I urge you to think about the value and delicacy of life."

Connor's father, Martin Smith, added: "Connor was a charm-

By Jack Johnson

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ing, happy-go-lucky boy, a dearly loved son, big brother and grandson and he will hold a place in my heart until the day that I die.

"Wherever he is, may he have found peace and comfort. He will be greatly missed."

Tributes have also been pouring in on social media with a Facebook group, 'Justice for Connor Tremble', attracting over 2,700 likes.

Dion Greaves wrote: "R.I.P mate! you will be sadly missed!!", and Julie Woods posted: "Justice for Connor such a lovely young man xx god bless xx".

Family and friends also set off lanterns in to the night sky at Spiceball Park in Banbury last Sunday evening.

A fundraising page has also been set up to raise money for two memorial benches in Oxford and Banbury.

Last Sunday's post-mortem did not establish a cause of death.

A 21-year-old man from Birmingham, arrested on Saturday on suspicion of assisting an offender, was released without charge.

Blencowe appeared at Reading Crown Court yesterday.



• Connor Tremble died in hospital on Saturday night

News Bites

Russian site

OXFORD Brookes has developed a new website for Russian students to find out more about the university.

The website, www.oxfordbrookes.ru, follows the successful launch of in-language sites in Japan, Thailand and Taiwan.

Brookes' new Russian site promotes key reasons why students should choose the university, course information and contacts.

Duo sentenced

TWO men from Oxford have each been sentenced to two years and three months in a detention centre for sexually abusing a teenage boy.

Iztullah Qudrat, 19, and Ghausel Tarakhail, 20, have also been placed on the sex offenders register for 10 years.

Qudrat admitted to engaging in sexual activity with a 14-year-old boy in the toilets in Bury Knowle Park.

Tarakhail admitted to inciting the victim to engage in sexual activity.

Lorry driver fined after bridge restriction breach

A LORRY driver from Kidlington who admitted breaching a weight restriction on Shabington East Bridge, near Thame, has been ordered to pay a £500 fine, £130 costs and a £50 victim surcharge.

Graham Hosier, 48, of Waverley Avenue, was spotted crossing the bridge by an Oxfordshire County Council bridge techni-

cian on June 19 last year, which was subsequently followed up by the Trading Standards team.

The bridge has a three-tonne weight limit after surveys determined it to be weak, and Hosier was prosecuted for driving a vehicle of a weight up to 7.5-tonnes.

Richard Webb, the council's Trading Standards team's

manager, said: "Bridge weight restrictions are there for a very good reason as limits are how much a bridge has been assessed as being able to safely take at a time."

"Ignoring restrictions mean drivers of heavy vehicles are putting other bridge users and themselves in danger, as they could cause a serious accident

through a bridge collapse."

"It may be tempting for drivers to flout the rules in order to take a short-cut, but it's always better to take the long and legal way round to ensure other road users' safety."

"I hope this case acts as a warning to other drivers who might be thinking of ignoring bridge weight restrictions."

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Taking the diabetes message to Commons

AN ABINGDON student has been chosen to speak about life with Type 1 diabetes by a global charity at the House of Commons next month.

Ellie Barnett, 21, from Peachcroft, was selected by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to talk about the condition and how it affects them on a daily basis at Type 1 Parliament on March 11.

Around 400,000 people in the UK suffer from type 1 diabetes and the number is believed to be growing rapidly, particularly those under five-years-old.

"I'm so excited to have been given the chance to represent others with diabetes in the UK," said Ellie, who studies psychology at Reading University.

"Type 1 diabetes is such a serious disease, but with newer technologies we can now be at the forefront of research, exploring alternative treatments and even possible cures for the condition.

"I'm hoping to raise awareness of diabetes, and encourage the government to invest more money towards research into type 1 diabetes."

Ellie was first diagnosed with the condition in 2004. The exact cause is unknown, but it is not

By Adam Flinn

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linked to lifestyle or diet.

She added: "I remember I was losing a lot of weight, and I was desperately thirsty all of the time.

"Having been downing gallons of water per day and still complaining I was thirsty, my parents decided to take me to the doctor.

"They ran some tests and later turned to me and said 'I'm afraid you have diabetes'.

"Everything was a bit of a blur after that. I was rushed to hospital and put on a drip, given injections and taught the basics like how to carb count, and they explained what was wrong with me.

"I found it rather exciting, but it was only later that I realised I'd be dealing with it for the rest of my life."

Karen Addington, chief executive of JDRF, said: "Type 1 diabetes doesn't have to hold you back in life, but it is a very challenging condition to live with.

"The government must respond to increasing rates of type 1 diabetes in the UK by investing more in research to treat, prevent and cure the condition.

"That's why we're taking our message to Westminster in March."



• Ellie Barnett will talk about her Type 1 diabetes at the House of Commons next month

News Bites

House burgled in Abingdon

A NUMBER of electrical items were stolen from a property in Clematis Place, Abingdon, last Wednesday.

A side window was also smashed during the burglary, which took place between 10am and 8pm.

Anyone with information about either burglary should call 101.

Trio arrested after robbery

TWO men and a boy have been arrested on suspicion of an attempted robbery that took place at the Local Stop off-license in Oak Street, Abingdon, on January 24.

The three males, aged 20, 19 and 16, were arrested on February 6, following the release of CCTV images as part of a witness appeal.

They have been bailed to return to Abingdon police station on March 6.

Vintage Fair back in town

RUBY'S Vintage Fair returns to Abingdon on Saturday, with a range of furniture, fashion, homeware and music on offer.

The fair is being staged at the Guildhall throughout the day, after it last visited the venue in September as part of the Abingdon Heritage Weekend celebrations. More information is on the town council website: www.abingdon.gov.uk.

Burglars target soldier's Marcham home

THE former commanding officer of an Oxfordshire regiment has had his family home in Marcham, near Abingdon, burgled.

Col Adam McRae MBE, now stationed in Andover, led 11 EOD's welcome home parade in Didcot last October.

However, on February 10, his family home on the A415 Abingdon Road was burgled.

Between 7.40am and 2.20pm, offenders stole an Emerald ring with ten surrounding diamonds, a large Gold locket engraved with flowers and an Omega Seamaster watch.

Electrical items such as an

iPad, two Kindles, two Kindle Fires, cameras, laptops, a Wii U console, controller and games were also stolen in the burglary.

"It is not nice to come home and find someone has been in your house and taken things," said Col McRae.

"It's the sentimental items,

the other things, it sounds horrible, but it is just stuff.

"The sentimental items, the ring, the locket, the watch I was given by the regiment. They are just irreplaceable."

If you have any information contact PC Mark Allmond on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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News Bites

New librarian for Bodleian

OXFORD University's Bodleian Libraries has a new librarian.

Richard Ovenden will succeed Dr Sarah Thomas as Bodley's Librarian and also become a fellow of Balliol College.

Mr Ovenden has held the position on an interim basis since August last year.

Cyclist dies after collision

A CYCLIST died in Oxford on Monday morning after colliding with a car.

The collision happened on the Watlington Road, the B480, at the junction with Garsington Road in Cowley.

Police were called at 5.41am to reports of a collision between a Nissan Micra and a cyclist.

The male rider died at the scene.

Thames Valley Police arrested a 39-year-old man from Reading on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving. He is on bail until April 10.

The force is appealing to anyone with information to call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Husband Phil takes challenge to heart

AN OXFORDSHIRE couple are encouraging as many people as possible to become organ donors, after a severe illness has greatly affected their lives over the past year.

Phil Marshall is set to complete four increasingly difficult challenges to raise awareness for organ donation through their 'I give you my heart' campaign, after his wife Sarah was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension.

Sarah was first hospitalised early last year when she tried to get up one morning and collapsed on the floor, struggling to breathe.

But it would take another seven months before doctors finally diagnosed the condition.

"It was very difficult," said Sarah. "Because we didn't know what was wrong with me, it was incredibly frustrating."

"I could hardly move, I couldn't breathe properly, everything just went wrong overnight, it was very strange."

Sarah was a teacher in Fritwell, near Bicester, before she fell ill, while Phil works in Banbury. They live in King's Sutton, on the Oxfordshire-Northamptonshire border.

By Adam Flinn

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On their donation page, www.igiveyoumyheart.org, Phil said Sarah has made progress from not being able to walk at all, to managing 200m after three months of aggressive drug treatment.

However, he writes that doctors are unwilling to give any prognosis on her life expectancy, but it is estimated between two to 10 years. This can be prolonged for some people by having a heart and/or lung transplant.

Many sufferers die while waiting for a donor.

Phil added: "The whole 12 months has been a real roller-coaster of all sorts of emotions, through frustration to just being sad at times with the diagnosis."

It was after discovering more about pulmonary hypertension that Phil decided to raise awareness for organ donation by planning his four challenges.

He will start off by running a half-marathon in April, followed by a full marathon, 85-mile race



• Phil and Sarah Marshall

walk and then culminating in a 100-mile run in August.

"One of my strengths is that I can be quite determined and bloody-minded at times, so the idea of doing something involving endurance is something that appealed to me," said Phil.

"It's obviously very daunting as it's a massive challenge."

Phil is not looking for sponsorship through his challenges, but is instead asking people to

take a pledge to sign up to be an organ donor.

Sarah said: "If you are on the list then it is important to make your family aware. They then won't be surprised and they'll know that this is what you wanted."

"And by talking to them, you might encourage them to put their name down as well."

Go to www.igiveyoumyheart.org.

Council leader hails response teams after tree incidents

OXFORDSHIRE County Council have dealt with more than 140 fallen trees or big branches since Friday, after strong winds affected southern England.

More than 40 staff have been involved in clearing the trees across the county, which led to a number of road closures.

All parts of the county were affected in equal measure, and tree specialists and highways crews have been working day and night to respond to the volume of incidents.

Cllr Ian Hudspeth, leader of the county council, said: "I'd like to thank our highways teams who have been out and about in the most treacherous of weather conditions to deal with fallen trees and clear roads for traffic."

"Exceptionally high winds and driving rain in the darkness hours is hardly the ideal working environment and I am sure it was a very difficult night."

Woodstock Road in Oxford was affected by a fallen tree, which badly damaged a street-lighting column.

Other roads affected across the county were in Banbury, Woodstock, Chipping Norton, Burford, Steventon, Sutton Courtenay and Great Rollright.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes - not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Josh Florey feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 10 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps."

Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Oxfordshire from their local depots and Josh is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal

satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much

a little bit of effort is appreciated." So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Josh a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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News Bites

Boy attacked

A 14-YEAR-OLD boy was assaulted by another boy in Banbury on Friday, in what police believe is an unprovoked attack.

The assault took place as the victim was walking to school along Upper Windsor Street at around 8.20am when he passed the offender, who grabbed him and pushed him to the pavement.

He fell to the ground and the offender, who did not say anything during the assault and was not known to the victim, walked off.

The offender was of a similar age to the victim, was wearing a school uniform and carrying a black rucksack.

Anyone with information should contact PC Ruth Ivins on 101.

Council approves £64m cuts in latest budget

OXFORDSHIRE County Council approved its 2014/15 budget on Tuesday, which sees around £64million of cuts as funding from central government is reduced.

The Conservative proposal was passed by 30 votes to 27, after amendments by the Labour, Liberal Democrat and Green groups were rejected.

An increase of just under two per cent will be made to council tax, which is the highest increase that can be made without the need for a referendum.

Cuts to services include £7.1m

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

from adult social care, £6.4m from the children, education and families budget, and over £600,000 from fire and community safety.

Around £11.2m will also be cut from the environment and economy budget, £2.5m from public health and £1.5m from cultural services, which includes public libraries.

Speaking on Twitter, council leader Ian Hudspeth said: "This

is my second budget as leader of the council, I had hoped that it would be easier than last year's. However, that has not been the case. In 2010 we started to reduce the budget by £201m. We now have an additional £64m to make, bringing the total to an eye-watering £265m. This budget will put extra money into youth protection, mainstream welfare rights and respite breaks for children's carers and flood relief.

"It will also abolish 15 minute home care visits, put an extra £1m into highways, and maintain

laundry services for incontinent residents.

"These are essential services that we need to deliver for the vulnerable people of Oxfordshire."

The three other political parties at the council all proposed amendments to the budget, with the Liberal Democrats suggesting that more money should be borrowed, which they said could save money long-term.

Cllr Zoe Patrick, speaking on Twitter, said: "[It was a] long day debating budget cuts. Pity our amendments were voted down,

but let's wait and see."

Labour's proposals, which included providing funding for youth workers and safeguarding the 'dial a ride' service, were also voted down.

And a Green party amendment which proposed a 4.5 per cent rise in council tax to reduce the amount of cuts was also rejected, with that level of increase requiring a referendum before it could be brought in.

Cllr Sam Coates said on Twitter: "All other parties voted against [the] Green plan to save vital services for vulnerable.

"We will now see even more cuts to homelessness, care services and other vital lifelines for our most vulnerable neighbours."

The budget has proven controversial with residents in recent months, and protestors were outside County Hall on Tuesday morning as councillors arrived for the meeting.

And on Saturday, a march was held from Manzil Way to Bonn Square in Oxford ahead of Tuesday's meeting, with residents protesting against the level of cuts.

It was organised by the Oxford People's Assembly.

Developer 'must produce West Way EIA'

A COMMUNITY group have welcomed a decision by Vale of White Horse District Council that developer Doric Properties will need to produce an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to supplement their proposals for the West Way shopping centre in Botley.

West Way Community Concern has objected to a number of Doric's proposals, and is holding a public meeting next Thursday about the issue.

The group is concerned that the planned development is not suitable for Botley, and last year hundreds of people gathered to link hands around the site in protest.

Co-chair of the group Chris Church said: "This is a victory for local campaigners. We will wait with interest to see how far the EIA is done to a proper standard."

Last week, the Guardian reported that Doric were set

to plant nearly 200 trees as part of its development plans of West Way.

The planning consultation stage for the proposals ends on March 27. For more information, go to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale4business/west-way.

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Children's charity's royal visit

AN OXFORDSHIRE-BASED children's charity has celebrated more than 100 years of work with a special visit from HRH The Countess of Wessex.

Local dignitaries, trustees and supporters of PACT, and local schoolchildren, descended upon Dorchester Abbey last Thursday to commemorate the charity's centenary.

Sophie, Countess of Wessex, buried a time capsule, containing items collected from a number of PACT projects, in the Abbey's grounds.

Jan Fishwick, chief executive of PACT, said: "The day was about celebrating the work of PACT and to showcase what we do."

"We were thrilled to have the Countess of Wessex here to come and take an interest in the work we do and to support us."

PACT's aim is to build and strengthen families through adoption and fostering and community projects.

By Jack Johnson

jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

The charity was set up in 1911 when Lord Stanmore provided the Bishop of Oxford, Francis Paget, with a £100 donation.

Ms Fishwick added: "Our society has changed but the work we do and the reason why we exist is very similar."

"We buried a time capsule to serve as a record of our work so far and as a celebration of all that we have achieved."

One family that has benefited from PACT's work is the Harris family who live in South Oxfordshire.

Tony, 47, and Sarah Harris, 42, adopted six-year-old Nicheala when she was just a year old.

Despite attachment issues throughout her first year with the family, she is now a "very happy and lively six-year-old", who loves to play video games



• (From left to right) Sarah, Nicheala, Tony and Theo Harris

with her eight-year-old brother Theo.

"She was quite agitated," Tony and Sarah explained, "and because she couldn't talk, she could not explain her feelings."



• The countess chats to six-year-old Nicheala

"She was with people she did not know and did not understand what was going on."

"We had our difficulties and PACT gave us a lot of support. We got through it all and we set-

tled in very nicely."

"The adoption process was very quick and with PACT the people are so experienced at what they do it simplified the process and



• Sophie buries the time capsule

we got through it very easily."

The countess also opened The Highfield Unit at the Warneford Hospital in Headington, and visited the Oxford Food Bank.

Silencing the howling hounds

CHERWELL District Council received 120 complaints during 2012/13 relating to noisy dogs, it has been revealed.

Reports of loud dogs accounted for 17 per cent of overall noise complaints in that period, and with six weeks of the 2013/14 financial year remaining, the figure has risen to 159.

Cllr Tony Ilott, lead member for public protection, said: "As a country we are known for being a nation of dog lovers but it is very easy to fall out of love with a dog that barks, howls and whines all hours of the day and night."

"Nobody should be forced to

tolerate a noisy neighbour, even if the culprit has four legs and a tail.

"In some instances, the owner may be unaware of the disruption so a polite chat may be all that is needed to resolve the problem. However, if that fails, Cherwell's antisocial behaviour team is here to help restore the peace."

If an investigation is required, a member of the antisocial behaviour team can serve an abatement notice, with further legal action possible through the magistrates' courts.

Go to www.cherwell.gov.uk/barkingdogs.

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Santa robber still wanted by police

POLICE are continuing to search for a man who robbed an Oxford store dressed in a Father Christmas outfit, and are re-appealing for witnesses.

At around 9.30am on December 23, the man entered the Next Store in Oxford Retail Park, Cowley, and walked into a staff area.

He then threatened a member of staff with a knife and demanded cash from a safe, and after being handed over money he then made off on a bicycle towards Blackbird Leys bridge.

The offender is described as white, of medium build, between 5ft 9ins to 6ft and in his thirties. He was wearing a blue fleece and jeans under the Father Christmas outfit.

Next are offering a £10,000 reward for information should a conviction take place.

Det Sgt Mark Stalder said: "This was a frightening incident which has left the staff member very shaken."

"We would urge anyone shopping around the Oxford Retail Park this morning who saw a man on a bike, dressed as Father Christmas, and who has not spoken to us already to get in touch as a matter of urgency."

Anyone with information should contact Det Sgt Stalder on 101.

A FREE smartphone app that gives nutritional information on over 80,000 packaged food and drinks has been launched by a team which included researchers from Oxford University.

FoodSwitch provides a 'traffic lights' rating system related to health, including fats, sugars, salt, protein and fibre.

It also suggests alternative products to help consumers

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

wanting a healthier diet, and was developed by the George Institute for Global Health along with Oxford University researchers.

Dr Peter Scarborough works in the British Heart Foundation Health Promotion Research Group at Oxford University, and he believes it will help people trying to lead a healthier lifestyle.

He said: "With all the messages about health in the public eye, it is hard for consumers to know

what is 'healthy'.

"The established nutrition criteria used in the app shows customers products that are healthier overall, not just whether they are higher in salt, fat or sugar."

Professor Susan Jebb of the university's Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences added: "A poor diet is responsible for tens of thousands of premature deaths every year in the UK."

"People will be able to use this smartphone technology to swap the foods in their regular shopping basket for healthier options

to help themselves and their families to cut the risk of diabetes, heart disease and some cancers."

FoodSwitch identifies foods by people scanning the barcodes with their smartphone camera, and then looks through its database to find the relevant information.

If a product is not listed, shoppers can take photos of the missing items to be validated and added to the database for future use.

Katharine Jenner, campaign director of FoodSwitch UK, said:

"The app puts the shopper back in control."

"It is not about telling people to stop eating or avoid certain foods with red colours, but rather highlighting differences in products."

"This new app will allow people to take responsibility for their individual and their family's health, and improve their eating habits in an easy and fun way."

FoodSwitch is free to download, and is available for iPhone and Android phones. For more information, go to www.actionon-salt.org.uk/foodswitch.

Work starts on £430k Blackbird Leys pavilion

WORK officially started on the new Blackbird Leys Pavilion on Friday, which is set to be home to Blackbirds FC and Greater Leys FC once complete.

The pavilion is owned by Oxford City Council, and the brand new facility will have changing rooms, official rooms, toilets and a tuck shop, with the construction costing approximately £430,000.

Cllr Mark Lygo, board member for parks, sports and events, said: "This facility will provide local teams with a high standard of facilities."

"We hope that it will increase the number of players and see them improve in their respective leagues."

"The ward councillors and sports officers have, and will, continue to work with the football clubs to ensure that they will be sustainable for the up and coming years."

Work comes at part of the council's Pavilion Modernisation Programme, which aims to improve 12 pavilions across the city as well as build a new facility at Grandpoint Recreation Ground.

Blackbird Leys pavilion is a replacement of an existing building, which was condemned almost eight years ago.



• Representatives from Blackbirds FC and Greater Leys FC with city councillor Scott Seamons (right)

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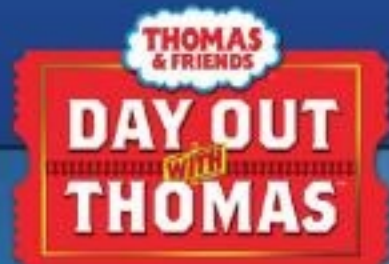
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'IRA' claims responsibility for packages

By Jack Johnson

jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

A GROUP claiming to be the 'IRA' says it was responsible for the suspect package found at an Army Careers office in Oxford last week.

The package was discovered at the office on St Giles last Thursday morning, with police cordoning off the street for more than two hours.

Similar packages were found at six other locations across the South East.

A spokesperson from Metropolitan Police said the group made the claim to a media organisation in Northern Ireland last Saturday.

"We are aware of the claim of responsibility for the devices that were sent to army recruitment centres in England last week," a statement read.

"The claim was received on Saturday, February 15, by a Northern Irish media outlet using a recognised codeword.

"The claim was allegedly made on behalf of the 'IRA'."

Prime Minister David Cameron chaired a COBR (Cabinet Office Briefing Room) meeting at the end of last week to discuss the devices.

Downing Street released a statement last Friday saying the packages

bore "all the hallmarks of Northern Ireland related terrorism".

A Number 10 spokesperson said: "Guidance has been issued to staff at all military establishments and Royal Mail asking them to be extra vigilant and to look out for any suspect packages.

"The national threat level remains under constant review."

Officers from the South East Counter Terrorism Unit (SECTU) assessed the contents of the package found at St Giles.

MOD Bomb Disposal Units were also called while the area was temporarily cordoned off as a precaution.

Det Supt Stan Gilmour of SECTU said the package posed "a very low level threat".

He added: "When a suspect package is reported we have a routine response which means we may need to evacuate the area if necessary until we can be sure it poses no threat to the public.

"Whilst this can cause concern and disruption for local communities, it is a necessary precaution until we know what we are dealing with."

The street and nearby buildings were evacuated as the emergency services and army dealt with the incident, before reopening a few hours later.

News Bites

And... action!

YOUNGSTERS in Oxford will get the chance to make their own movie and hold a special screening for their friends and family.

The city council is offering filming sessions for 10 children, aged between 8 and 14 years at Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

Children will be shown how movies are made, including how to edit clips on computers.

The sessions start on February 25 from 4pm until 6pm at Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

If you want to be involved or find out more, contact Karimu Corbeek at kc-orbeek@oxford.gov.uk or call 01865 252680.

Street attack

A 40-YEAR-OLD man who appeared to be begging in Oxford was assaulted during a conversation with an unknown man earlier this month, who punched him to the ground and kicked him in the chest.

It took place at 5.25pm on February 9 on New Inn Hall Street, and the offender is described as white, wearing a black top and carrying a black backpack.

The victim was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital, where he was treated for a cut lip and swollen jaw. Call 101 with information.

New graduate scheme is set to benefit young people in Oxford



• MINI Plant Oxford intern Ciaran Raymer discusses performance processes with associate Ziaur Chowdhury

BMW has launched a new 24-month graduate programme, with the majority of its placements to be in Oxford.

The brand new programme has 13 places available across the country's MINI plants, with eight based at Cowley's Oxford MINI plant.

Starting in October this year, graduates will complete five different placements on strategic and operational projects over a two-year period.

BMW say this will allow appren-

tices to "gain an insight into business process, strategy and culture from both a UK and global perspective".

Holly Chalmers, BMW Group UK's recruitment and staffing manager, said: "We are looking forward to recruiting talented young people who have a passion for the motor industry."

Student Ciaran Raymer, 23, is currently working at MINI Plant Oxford as an intern as part of his year in industry.

He said: "I've had the opportunity to work with and learn from experts in their respected fields giving me access to an unparalleled level of knowledge."

"The launch of the new graduate scheme is really exciting and will be a great opportunity for anyone wanting to pursue a career in the automotive sector."

For further information visit www.facebook.com/BMWCareersUK. Applications close on February 28.

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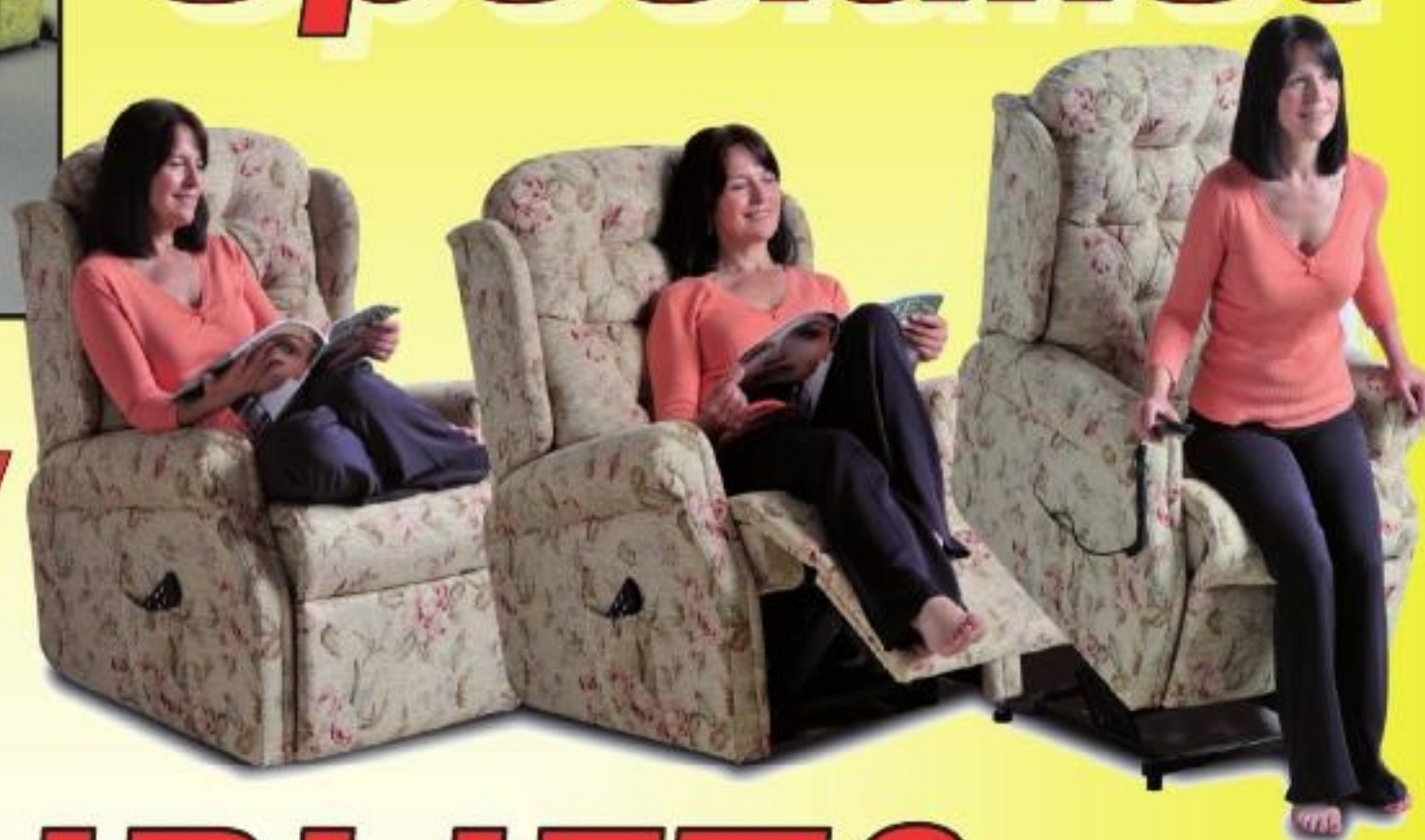
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Oxford leads new stroke research

AN OXFORD study into strokes and other acute vascular events is set to be used in a new online resource by the National Institute for Health Research.

The Oxford Vascular Study (OXVASC) was launched online earlier this week.

It looks at strokes, coronary events and peripheral vascular events in a population of 92,000 people across nine Oxfordshire general practices.

It considered the occurrence, causes and consequences of these events, to help doctors get an insight into the different aspects of the conditions.

Professor Peter Rothwell is the principal investigator for OXVASC, and is based at the Stroke Prevention Research Unit, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuro-

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

sciences.

He said: "Few of these early recurrent strokes were prevented in practice because of a lack of understanding about the risk and the optimal treatment."

"We showed that the early risk of major stroke was very high, we developed simple risk scores to identify which individuals were at highest risk, and we showed how best to prevent major stroke."

"I am delighted to share a platform with some of the country's key researchers in stroke."

"I hope the new online resource helps to raise awareness of clinical research in our region and encourage more patients across the coun-

try to take part."

There are around 18,000 strokes per year in the South East, and last year over 2,000 patients in the region took part in stroke research.

The study also looked at Transient Ischaemic Attacks (TIA or 'mini-stroke'), which often precede a major stroke.

This research showed that emergency treatment after TIA reduces the risk of a major stroke by as much as 80 per cent, leading to changes in clinical guidelines in the UK and beyond.

It is estimated that 10,000 strokes will be prevented each year in the UK alone as a result.

Professor Rothwell's study, along with many other research papers relating to strokes, can be found at www.focusonstroke.nihr.ac.uk.

Leader Lottie rising up for women

A THAME woman is leading a group of eight females in a trek to the highest point in North Africa, and is hoping to raise £1,500 for charities Giving Africa and Limb Power.

Lottie Moore, 44, is leading the group up the 4,160m to the summit of Jbel Toubkal in Morocco, which they hope to complete on International Women's Day on March 8.

It comes after Lottie and her daughter moved to Burkina Faso, in West Africa, for much of 2010, after she had been suffering from near poverty.

"At the time I left for Africa I had nothing in my mind more than escaping the life I was living," said Lottie. "It resulted in an experience beyond all expectations."

"Now I am going back to Africa and I can't wait. The six night women's trip climbing Toubkal will be a huge challenge, but it will encourage us to look beyond our limitations."



• Lottie Moore, pictured during her time in Africa, will be leading eight women to the summit of Morocco's Jbel Toubkal next month

"None of us have a huge amount of experience as walkers and we are all of regular fitness. I predict we will be getting through a lot of Kleenex with all the tears at the

summit!"

Lottie is also the founder of women's help group WISH Women. For more information, go to www.wish-women.org.uk.

MP's Column

Andrew Smith

MP for Oxford East



Coping with aftermath of flooding devastation

FLOODING continues to be a major concern, even with the welcome news that the relentless arrival of storms and heavy rain may have abated.

In many locations across the county residents are still coping with the aftermath of the floods, and many fields are still under water, with serious consequences for farming.

In my own constituency, such is the flood and groundwater pressure on the sewerage system, that even where their homes haven't been flooded, a number of residents have been unable to use their toilets for weeks on end. It has left them with the unpleasant necessity of trooping out to portaloos in the middle of the night.

This all underlines how essential it is both to get long-term measures in place to prevent flooding, and to do whatever we can in the short term to improve local flood

defences.

Lessons are learnt from every flood, and some areas which flooded badly in 2007 have been protected this time, because of flood barriers and intensive pumping. A big thank you to the emergency services, council, Environment Agency and Thames Water front-line workers who have been working so hard to help our communities.

The letter which I, city council Leader Bob Price and Nicola Blackwood MP wrote to the Prime Minister on the economic as well as the human cost of the flooding has resulted in a meeting at No10 Downing Street, where we will be pressing the case for the western relief channel, which is the only measure which will significantly reduce the threat of flooding in Oxford.

The County Council, which is the lead local authority on flooding,

has organised a floods summit for March 21, where we will be co-ordinating our work for flood protection right across the county.

There has been a good community spirit in dealing with these floods. There are always lessons to be learnt. There is always more which needs to be done, both in local measures and in keeping up the global effort against climate change. Whilst no-one can say for sure that recent floods are the consequence of climate change, they are certainly consistent with the greater frequency of abnormal weather events which the science on climate change predicts.

I think it is important that politicians at all levels in our county pull together, across party lines, in getting the measures we need, and the help which affected residents, businesses and farmers deserve. I will do my best to ensure this happens.



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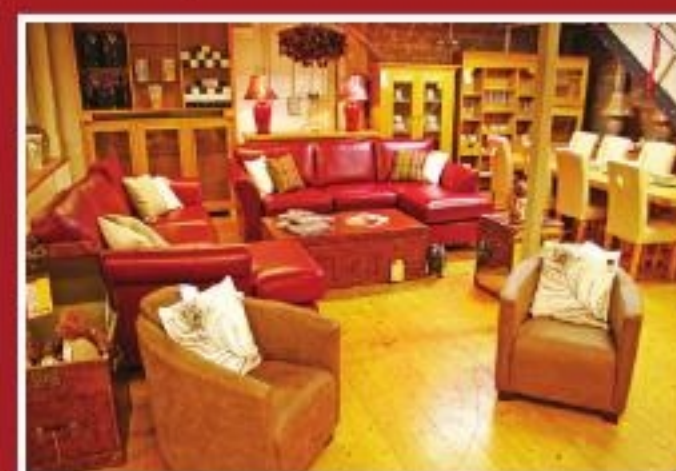
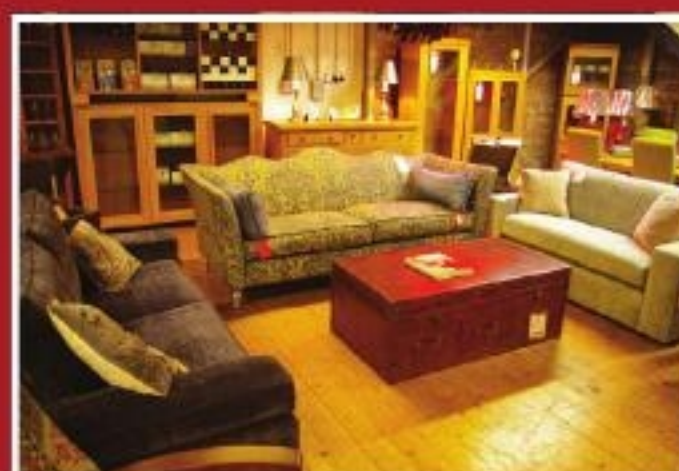
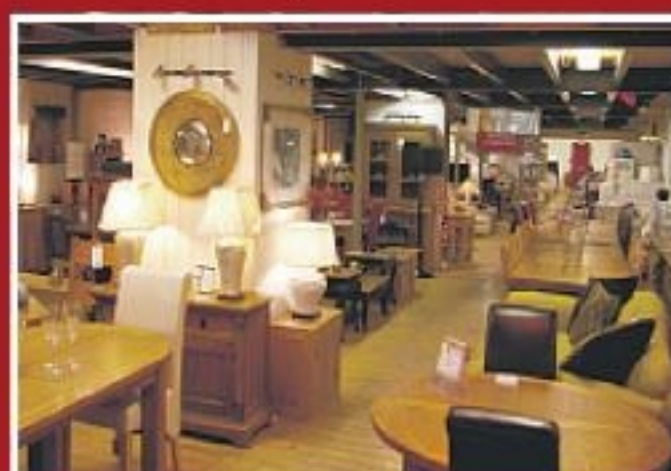
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Oxford and Grenoble's 25-year celebrations

Chair signed by stars raffled off for charity

A DECKCHAIR that was signed by a number of music stars at last year's Cornbury Festival is set to be raffled off to raise money for Helen and Douglas House.

Van Morrison, Keane, James Arthur and Imelda May are amongst the names to have signed the chair, which is being offered in the raffle along with a holiday in the Caribbean.

The raffle will be held at Helen and Douglas House's comedy and music fundraiser 'Childish Things' at the Oxford New Theatre next month, which features a line-up including Jimmy Carr and Rob Brydon.

This year's show is set to be the 10th and final 'Childish Things' to take place on March 24 and 25, after organisers cited difficulties in finding acts each year.

It has raised more than £500,000 for the hospice in the past decade, with last year's show collecting over £100,000.

Raffle tickets will be available at the event on March 25, with show tickets starting from



• Dozens of signatures feature on the deckchair, which will be raffled off for Helen and Douglas House

Tickets for both days are available from the New Theatre website www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk, or by calling the box office on 0844 871 3020.

A PROGRAMME of art exhibitions, book events, concerts and photography displays are being staged in the city later this year, to celebrate 25 years since the twinning of Oxford and Grenoble, France.

Representatives and twinning association members from Grenoble will travel to Oxford for a week of festivities, taking place between April 26 and May 3.

It has been organised by Oxford City Council and the Oxford-Grenoble Association (OGA), with guests from Grenoble being welcomed at a number of civic and cultural events.

The celebrations will be launched by Lord Mayor of Oxford Cllr Dee Sinclair and OGA chair Mel Houldershaw on April 26 at the Town Hall.

Ms Houldershaw said: "Around 80 performers and Grenoble friends are coming over for the celebrations, led by the dynamic Marie-Christine Simiand, who last year was awarded an MBE for all she has done for us."

"She and Team Grenoble entertained us in style on the 20th twinning anniversary, so now it is Team Oxford's turn!" Cllr Bob Price, leader of the

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

city council, added: "We are very much looking forward to welcoming our friends from Grenoble."

"The Silver Jubilee of the twinning is an auspicious occasion and the Oxford-Grenoble Association put on a really enjoyable week of events to celebrate the 20th anniversary."

"I am sure that the programme for the 25th will be equally successful and will reflect the strong links that have developed between our two cities."

Key events include the art exhibition 'Alps and Spires' at the Town Hall, book talks at Blackwell's Bookshop and an Anglo-French concert at St John the Evangelist Church.

A photography exhibition by Paul Medley, entitled 'Grenoble University: Between the city and the mountains', will also be staged at Blackwell's Bookshop throughout April.

More information and updates about the week of events can be found at www.oxford.gov.uk/twinning.

News Bites

Man charged

A 29-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with dangerous driving and speeding in Horspath.

He will appear at Oxford Magistrates' Court on February 28.

The charge is in relation to an incident on Cuddesdon Road on January 21.

Plans shown

ROSE Hill Community Centre's final plans have been unveiled at two events organised by Oxford City Council.

The new centre will bring several existing services together under one roof, including the social club, advice centre and youth club, as well as providing a new doctor's surgery, gym and office for Thames Valley Police.

In addition, the existing sports pavilion will be demolished, with the centre expected to be completed during spring 2015.

Cllr Ed Turner, deputy leader of the council, said: "I am pleased that we have been able to show the final plans to the community and show them that we have listened to their feedback."

"We are now in the process of tendering for the developer and we hope work will start on site in the next few months."

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'We'll do what show requires'

La Traviata

LA Traviata, Verdi's classic tale of love and sacrifice telling the story of 'fallen woman' Violetta, comes to the North Wall Arts Centre tomorrow and Saturday.

Three men rule Violetta's life, and this production reveals the hypocrisy and heartache behind the prohibition era of Atlantic City in 1928.

Both shows start at 7.30pm. More details are available at www.thenorthwall.com.

She's a sinner

TEENAGE singer Lauren Aquilina performs at Oxford's O2 Academy on Saturday, following the release of her second EP 'Sinners'.

Eighteen-year-old Lauren has been writing songs for the past decade, playing the piano since she was nine, and has already amassed almost two million video views.

Doors open at 7pm. Go to www.o2academyoxford.co.uk for more information.

FOLK musicians Éamonn Coyne and Kris Drever come to Didcot's Cornerstone theatre tomorrow, following the release of their critically acclaimed album 'Storymap' last year.

Éamonn and Kris met through the vibrant Edinburgh music scene, and first played together around eight years ago.

Since then, and in between their busy schedules working with other bands and musicians, the pair have continued to work together and release new material.

'Storymap' features a host of their musical friends, including Eliza Carthy, Simon Bradley, Megan Henderson and Calum McIntyre to name a few.

Éamonn's banjo-playing and tenor guitar, twinned with Kris' guitar and mandolin skills, has led to the album becoming increasingly popular.

"The reaction has been fantastic," said Éamonn. "People really like it, and lots of the tracks have been played and played."

Tomorrow's show sees Éamonn and Kris perform from 'Storymap' and their first collaboration 'Honk Toot Suite', as well as their own solo work.

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Éamonn added: "We tend to do lots of stuff, we're not specific to one album."

"We have a repertoire of about two hours to work from, so if you do an hour and a half show, you can only get through some of the stuff."

"We'll choose whatever we think the show requires, and just whatever we think about really."

"You basically get the best of the two of us, that's the idea. People who've come to the show before know what to expect."

Éamonn's solo album 'Through the Round Window' was released in 2002, while Kris' two releases are the 2006 album 'Black Water' and the 2010 record 'Mark the Hard Earth'.

The pair will combine tracks from these as well as their two albums recorded together, in what promises to be an entertaining show.

Tickets cost £14.50 for an 8pm start. For more information, go to www.cornerstone-arts.org or call 01235 515144.



• Kris Drever (left) and Éamonn Coyne come to the Cornerstone on Saturday

Straits tribute

GUITAR ace John Brunson and his band of accomplished musicians, joined by saxophonist Nigel Hodge, pay tribute to Dire Straits at their show at Banbury's Mill Arts Centre on Saturday.

Known as Dire Streets, the group are considered as one of the best Dire Straits tribute acts playing in the UK, as they capture the sound of one of the biggest guitar bands of all time.

Go to www.themillartscene.co.uk for further details.

Comedy night

STAND-UP comedians Adam Bloom, Chris Martin, Andrew Bird and Mark Oliver make up the line-up at Oxford's Glee Club on Saturday.

The gig is part of the club's regular series of comedians on a Saturday evening. Doors open at 7.15pm, and booking details can be found at www.glee.co.uk/oxford.

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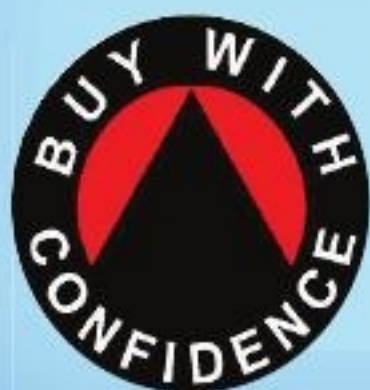
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'It's about piecing it together'

Sunny Ormonde

SUNNY Ormonde, also known as Lilian from The Archers, speaks about her 12 years on the renowned show at Didcot Cornerstone on Saturday.

As well as The Archers, Sunny has performed in numerous other productions during her career, and Saturday's show will also include a Q&A with the actress.

It begins at 2pm. More details are available at www.cornerstone-arts.org.

Hugless Doug

THE tale of lovable brown bear Hugless Douglas, who really wants a hug, comes to Henley's Kenton Theatre on Sunday.

Suitable for children aged three to seven, Douglas discovers that there are many hugs to choose from, but none can beat a big bear hug from his mum.

Two shows are planned for 11am and 2pm. Go to www.kentontheatre.co.uk for more information.

By Adam Flinn

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

BRIGHTON-BASED two-piece band Royal Blood make their first trip to Oxford on Wednesday, following their recent nomination in the BBC Sound of 2014 poll.

Made up of vocalist Ben Thatcher and bass player Mike Keer, the band has only been performing for the past 18 months, and last week released their latest single 'Little Monster'.

This upcoming tour is in preparation for the duo's first album, which they are hoping to release by the end of the year.

"We've been writing for the last year," said Ben. "We've got quite a lot of the songs recorded, it's just about piecing it together now."

"It's all been pretty crazy for us really. We didn't think the first single ('Out of the Black') would blow up so big, so quickly."

"I guess releasing that first song we didn't expect the radio-play that it got or anything like that for a four-minute heavy rock song."

"Because we didn't have that

much of a status right there for the band, we thought we'll gradually get up there, but it went really well and it's still doing really well. We were amazed."

Royal Blood's popularity has increased rapidly since they started off in October 2012, with comparisons made between them and The Black Keys, The White Stripes and Queens of the

Stone Age.

Their first single received air-play on Radio One, XFM and Australian station Triple J, and they are now looking forward to their first headline tour.

Ben added: "We did our first supporting tour in October, which went really well, so we're looking forward to getting back out to those venues again and

doing it properly!"

"There's going to be a couple of new songs that we're going to be trying out. The set's going to be a little bit longer, so we'll see how it goes really."

Wednesday's show takes place at The Art Bar in Oxford, with doors open at 7.30pm. For more details about the band, go to www.facebook.com/royalblooduk.



• Ben Thatcher (left) and Mike Keer make their first visit to Oxford next week

Classic thriller

FREDERICK Knott's intense and gripping thriller Dial M for Murder comes to the Oxford Playhouse from Tuesday, starring popular TV actor Christopher Timothy.

The story follows Tony Wendice, who is plotting the perfect murder, but the plan goes awry in this tale of betrayal and passion.

Seven shows are scheduled, and full details are available at www.oxfordplayhouse.com.

Kate Tempest

POET and spoken word artist Kate Tempest is at the North Wall Arts Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday, to tell an everyday epic over a live score played by tuba, cello, violin, drums and electronics.

Both shows start at 8pm, and booking details can be found at www.thenorthwall.com.

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charismatic voice and edgy brand of hip hop-infused soul.

21 February, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

The North Wall, Oxford

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Verdi's classical tale of love and sacrifice has been thrilling audiences for generations. This is the story of Violetta and the three men who rule her life. Set in Atlantic City in 1928 this new production reveals the hypocrisy and heartache behind the glittering façade of the prohibition era's speakeasies and bootlegging.

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21 February, 8pm

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22 February, 8.20pm - 11pm

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The North Wall, Oxford

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25 February - 1 March

Oxford Playhouse

DIAL M FOR MURDER

This hit show stars Christopher Timothy, best known for his roles in popular TV shows All Creatures Great and Small and Doctors. Famously directed on screen by Alfred Hitchcock, this exciting and claustrophobic production is directed by Lucy Bailey, who has worked for many of the country's leading theatre companies, including the National Theatre and Shakespeare's Globe.

www.oxfordplayhouse.com

26 February, 8.30pm

The Lamb Inn, Mill Street, Wantage

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Friday 28 February, 7.30 pm

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28 February, 5pm

Oxford Playhouse

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Entertainment

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28 February, 8pm - 8pm
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Spanning four centuries, this evening's programme by Estahani covers the gamut of the harpsichord repertoire.
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1 March, 7:30pm
St Mary's Church, Streatley on Thames
CHARITY CONCERT FOR GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL

All pieces are either light classical or traditional music, (instrumental pieces, arias or poems) and all are cheerful and also short. It's a slightly unusual form of concert in that

there are between 20 and 30 voluntary performers who have very generously given their time to perform one or two pieces each, as solos, duo or trios. (Tickets cost £5)
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1 March, 11am - 12pm
The North Wall, Oxford
GRANDPA'S RAILWAY

Featuring a working model railway, live music and two very playful characters, Grandpa's Railway is a journey of discovery that explores the past, illuminates the present and lays new tracks for the future.
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1 March, 9am - 5pm
The Mix on Mill Street, Wantage
GIRLGUIDING TAKEOVER

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1 March, 2pm - 4pm
Cumnor Village Hall
JUMBLE SALE

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1 March, 5pm
Vue Bicester. Cineworld Didcot. Phoenix Picturehouse Oxford. The Regal Henley-on-Thames. Cineworld Witney.
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1 - 24 March, 10am - 4pm
The Sewell Centre Gallery, Radley College, Abingdon
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1 March, 7pm
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www.wantagebetjeman.com/sounds-of-wales

2 March
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3 - 4 March
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www.oxfordplayhouse.com

4 March, 8pm
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5 March - 6 March, 8pm
The North Wall, Oxford
HAMMER AND TONGS

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The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
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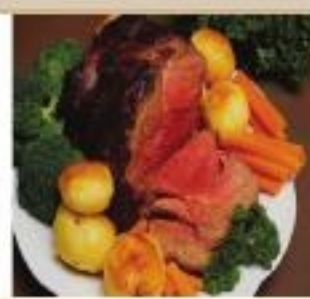
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Sudoku

	8			5	1			4
		6			4		3	7
	1	2	9			8		
2	5	8	3	6				
	7						9	
				4	2	6	8	5
		1			7	5	6	
3	6		2			4		
9			1	3			7	

	9					5	8	
		3	4	8				
	6		9			1	2	
			5			7		
7		1				2		9
		6			9			
	1	8			5		7	
				9	8	4		
	7	4					9	

	7		2					1
	5	4			3			2
		3			6	5		
	6	1						
7								3
						8	9	
		2	6			4		
3			1			2	8	
5					7		1	

Two speed crossword

- 1 Collide (4)
- 2 Waterways (6)
- 3 Bring into harmony (6)
- 5 Onslaught (6)
- 6 Courses served at end of meals (8)
- 7 Musical drama (5)
- 9 Causes (9)
- 10 Those who hide to obtain free passage (9)
- 13 Greek letter (5)
- 15 By the side of (5)
- 16 Boatman (8)
- 18 Raised platforms (6)
- 19 Garret (5)
- 20 Put in gradually (6)
- 21 Exceptional intellectual ability (6)
- 25 Grows old (4)

- 1 People are often intent on getting here (4)
- 2 There's no term arrangement for the tutor (6)
- 3 Arranged intervals (for astronauts?) (6)
- 5 It's got a neck (6)
- 6 He's certainly willing to try (8)
- 7 Drank heavily, up at headquarters (5)
- 9 Ten get chased round and punished (9)
- 10 There's an animal in the orchestra (4-5)
- 13 Beastly creatures likely to get in a wax (5)
- 15 Agencies in the same diagram (5)
- 16 Calmly made up (8)
- 18 His work is a real picture (6)
- 19 Hangs loosely with three pounds so out (5)
- 20 Keep it near maybe (6)
- 21 Fawn is sound as a bell at heart (6)
- 25 Does it produce poems? (4)

1		2		3				4	5		6
							7				
8					9		10				
				11							
	12		13				14		15		
16		17									
		18		19				20		21	
22							23				
				24							25
26							27				
28					29						

Scribble space

Last week's solutions

9	2	1	6	5	7	3	4	8
4	8	5	1	9	3	2	6	7
7	3	6	4	2	8	9	5	1
8	9	7	2	1	6	4	3	5
5	6	2	8	3	4	7	1	9
3	1	4	5	7	9	6	8	2
2	5	3	9	4	1	8	7	6
6	7	9	3	8	5	1	2	4
1	4	8	7	6	2	5	9	3

6	5	9	2	4	3	8	1	7
3	7	4	1	9	8	2	5	6
1	2	8	7	5	6	3	4	9
9	3	1	6	7	5	4	2	8
8	4	2	3	1	9	7	6	5
7	6	5	8	2	4	1	9	3
4	9	7	5	8	1	6	3	2
5	8	3	4	6	2	9	7	1
2	1	6	9	3	7	5	8	4

4	9	7	8	5	1	2	6	3
1	3	6	9	2	7	5	4	8
2	5	8	6	4	3	7	9	1
7	6	3	1	9	8	4	2	5
9	1	4	2	3	5	8	7	6
8	2	5	4	7	6	3	1	9
6	4	1	5	8	2	9	3	7
3	8	9	7	1	4	6	5	2
5	7	2	3	6	9	1	8	4

Across: 4 Obtuse 8 Allied 9 Italic 10 Locksmith 11 Beds
13 Groom 14 Umpires 16 Contain 18 Flout 19 Emus
21 Fireworks 22 Ensued 23 Herring 24 Tidier
Down: 1 Elbow room 2 Jackboots 3 Seems 5 Bath 6
Uglier 7 Excess 9 Items 11 Billboard 12 Debunking 15 Livid
16 Cement 17 Nursed 20 Rebel 21 Fete

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Up coming comedy events in 2014

28th March Friday's Line-up

MC **David Ward** **HEADLINE** **Diane Spencer** **Markus Birdman**

25th April Friday's Line-up

MC **Ben Van der Velde** **HEADLINE** **David Whitney** **Bennett Arron**

30th May Friday's Line-up

MC **Paul T Eyres** **HEADLINE** **Nick Dixon** **Nick Revell**

27th June Friday's Line-up

MC **Karen Bayley** **HEADLINE** **Andy White** **Brian Higgins**

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Check out the website www.outofboundscomed.co.uk for details of all future events here and at our other venues

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Mother's Day feature

Sunday March 30th 2014

Give Mum a morning to savour

IT MAY be the one time of year when mothers get to be waited on by their offspring, so why not start Mothering Sunday as you mean to go on with a lovingly prepared brunch or breakfast in bed?

With Dad taking charge in the kitchen, there are plenty of easy chores the little ones can tackle while Mum gets a well-deserved lie-in. And learning how to cook could have a positive impact on fussy young eaters as well.

Children's cookery expert Annabel Karmel says: "Tasks such as cracking eggs and stirring are well within the capabilities of a young child and it is amazing how being involved in the planning and preparation of a meal can stimulate a child's appetite."

When it comes to cooking with your kids, Karmel recommends picking recipes that lead to quick results as children have short attention spans.

"To start with, choose recipes that are simple enough for your child to make without too much help from you, then you can build up a repertoire of recipes they feel confident doing by themselves," she says.

Karmel's safety tips for cooking with kids

- Always make sure children wash their hands before doing any cooking.
- Never use wet hands to turn on a switch or pull out a plug.
- If they need to stand on a chair to reach the work surface, make sure it's very stable.
- Explain about heat and the dangers of steam, hot pans and hobs.

Now try one of these yummy brunch recipes to make mum smile...

By Diana Pilkington

Devilled mushrooms

(Serves 1)
25g butter
150g chestnut mushrooms, thinly sliced
2-3 drops Worcestershire sauce
-0tsp Dijon mustard
3tbsp creme fraiche (low fat is fine)
1 muffin, split and toasted
1tsp fresh chopped parsley (optional)

Melt half the butter in a medium frying pan. Add the mushrooms and saute



over a high heat for 6-8 minutes until the mushrooms are golden. Stir in the Worcestershire sauce and mustard. Remove from the heat and stir in the creme fraiche.

Sit the muffin on a plate, spread with the remaining butter toasted side up, and spoon over the mushrooms. You can sprinkle with a little chopped parsley if you like.

Breakfast bear pancakes

(Serves 1)
125g self-raising flour
1 egg
125ml milk
4tbsp creme fraiche
1tsp vanilla extract
3tbsp maple syrup
20g butter
2tbsp vegetable oil
Fresh fruit, to serve (optional)

Chop up your fruit - thinking about what might work for your pancake bear's ears (banana), eyes (blueberries), arms (strawberries) and feet (kiwi) - be as creative as you like!

Put the flour in a large bowl. Whisk together the egg, milk, creme fraiche, vanilla, maple syrup and a pinch of salt. Add this mixture to the flour and whisk to make a batter (there may be a few small lumps, but don't worry).

Melt the butter in a large non-stick frying pan and tip it into a small bowl.

Mix 1 tablespoon of the melted butter into the batter. Use the rest to grease the pan. Drop 2 tablespoons of batter into the frying pan and cook the pan-

cake for 2 minutes until brown underneath and just set on top (with small bubbles).

Flip over and cook for a further 1-2 minutes until golden and cooked through.

Lay one pancake slightly over the other - decide which will be the head and which will make the body and decorate with your fruit.

For more family recipes download Annabel Karmel's Essential Guide to Feeding your Baby and Toddler available on iTunes and Google Play for £3.99

Annabel Karmel's Devilled Mushrooms (left) and Breakfast Bear Pancakes (below). PA Photo/Annabel Karmel



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New Peugeot 308 proves a classy and sophisticated presence From strength to strength

PEUGEOT'S new 308 continues the French firm's move up market; an initiative recently seen with the 208 and 2008.

With well-balanced proportions, the new car projects a classy and sophisticated presence: the front dominated by the brand's 'floating' front grille and the rear showcasing the three Peugeot (lion) 'claws' drawn by the rear LED lamps.

The 308 has also been on a serious diet, losing around 140kg compared to its predecessor, leading to significant reductions in emissions - this HDi 92

REVIEW: PEUGEOT 308

By Philip Shoulder

@writeonmotoring

variant emitting 99 g/km of CO2.

Step inside and you'll instantly notice a much more sophisticated cabin than before.

There's a similar pod binnacle layout as used in the 208, but here that integration with the rest of the dashboard is more fluid and sleeker.

Build quality sees a marked improvement on the old 308; everything feeling very well screwed together and the sound (or lack of) the doors closing is remarkable.

The new range comprises Access, Active, Allure and Feline models. Even this lower-end Active model gets a 9.7" touch screen infotainment system, incorporating satellite navigation; dual zone air conditioning, 16" alloys; USB input; Bluetooth, DAB radio; Auto

lights and rear parking sensors.

An integrated infotainment system impresses with its look, feel and functionality and incorporates satellite navigation.

The majority of switchgear is accessed via intuitive on-screen menus, which keeps the dash uncluttered.

The 308's driving position is good, and the seats are comfortable and supportive.

Front and side visibility is good, but rearward it is hampered by a letter-box-shaped back window and thick C-pillars.

A fair amount of storage space and cubbies can be found in the 308's cabin, although the glove-box and door bins are on the petite side.

Headroom is generous, even on cars equipped with a glass panoramic roof. Leg room scores well, too, but in the rear it's on the tight side, only just managing to accommodate two six-footers front and back.

The boot is decently shaped and sized, at 470 litres. Rear seats fold 60/40, albeit leaving a slight step.

Although modestly powered, the 92 bhp 1.6 litre diesel's 230 Nm of torque allows for good tractability at low revs and ensures you won't be up and down the gearbox every time you encounter a hill, either.

Mixed route driving returned an average 47 mpg, some way off the claimed



• The new Peugeot 308

74.3.

The five-speed manual gearbox doesn't quite have the slickness of the firm's six-speeder, but remains good. Brakes are reassuringly responsive, without being over-sensitive.

The chassis is fluid and controlled, which keeps the 308 flat through the corners, while the ride remains supple and smooth. Steering is responsive, but does lack some feel.

Refinement levels are about right for this class: the engine never booms and minimal tyre and wind noise enters the cabin.

VERDICT:

Peugeot have been going from strength-to-strength over recent years. This new 308 is the culmination of their efforts: it's a much better car than its predecessor and is worthy of comparison with any current rival.

Facts at a glance

OTR Price: £17,895

Engine: 1.6-litre 4cyl, diesel

Max Power: 92 bhp @ 4000 rpm

Torque: 230Nm at 1750 rpm

Transmission: Five-speed manual

0-62 mph: 11.3 seconds

Combined MPG: 74.3 (claimed)

CO2 emissions: (g/km) 99

Annual Road tax: £0



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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km) for the 308 range are: Urban 35.7 - 67.3 (7.9 - 4.2), Extra Urban 61.4 - 85.6 (4.6 - 3.3), Combined 48.7 - 78.5 (5.8 - 3.6) and CO2 134 - 95. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions. On the road prices quoted include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty and £55 Government First Registration Fee.

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Scotlands Ash Garage wins garage of the year 2014

DIDCOT based garage business Scotlands Ash Garage has won "Garage of the Year" at the Car & Accessory Trader (CAT) magazine 2014 awards.

The independent garage emerged victorious following a very competitive voting campaign, which saw the garage take to social media and local press to canvass votes.

The CAT awards are one of the largest of their kind in the automotive industry and Scotlands Ash Garage was up against two other garages throughout the UK.

Scotlands Ash Garage proprietor, Peter Welch, said: "It's incredible. We're a small business but we work hard to raise the profile of good car servicing and repair across Oxfordshire. To have so many people from the local area cast their vote for us is amazing and I'd like to say thanks to all of them for their support. And,

to the Scotlands Ash Team, family, friends and customers, who have been with us on our journey, we thank them enormously."

In addition to Peter, the Scotlands Ash Team comprises of trained mechanics Steve Moxon, Nathan Edwards, Jack Jones, Stuart Florey and administrative support Gillian Hyde.

The CAT awards ceremony took place on 7 February at Twickenham Rugby Stadium, West London. CAT magazine is part of media giant Haymarket Media Group. Car & Accessory Trader is a leading business magazine aimed at the UK



Scotlands Ash Garage, Proprietor, Peter Welch

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda6 range: Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 47.9 (5.9) - 72.4 (3.9). CO₂ emissions (g/km) 136 - 104.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

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2004 04 PEUGEOT 307 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet Petrol 5-Speed Manual 59370 Miles **£4,295**



2000 A MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS ALL TEXAN PETROL AUTO 64000 Miles **£5,995**



2007 07 TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 D-4D 2.2 DIESEL 6-Speed Manual 95050 Miles **£7,295**



2004 04 FORD FOCUS C-MAX GHIA 1.8 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 54160 Miles **£3,495**



2000 W ROVER MINI COOPER I 2 Door Saloon Petrol 48000 Miles **£5,495**



2005 55 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16v TWINPORT 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 46360 Miles **£3,995**



2004 04 LAND ROVER FREELANDER S STATION WAGON Petrol 5-Speed Manual 92146 Miles **£3,995**



2006 06 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI S LINE TDV TURBO DIESEL 6-speed manual 110270 miles **£6,995**



2002 52 PORSCHE BOXSTER 24v 2.7 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 111210 Miles **£5,995**

AUDI

2007 07	Audi A4 TDi S Line Tdv 2.0 Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 118080 Miles	£7,295
2006 06	Audi A4 2.0 TDi S Line Tdv Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 110270 Miles	£6,995
2005 55	Audi A4 Turbo S Line Bose Sound Turbo 5-Speed Manual 97000 Miles	£5,495

BMW

2005 55	BMW 3 Series 318i ES 2.0 Petrol 6-Speed Manual 37850 Miles	£6,295
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CHEVROLET

2007 07	Chevrolet Kalos SE 5dr 1150cc Finance available Petrol 5-Speed Manual 39000 Miles	£2,895
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FIAT

2007 07	Fiat Grande Punto Active 8v 5dr 1.2 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 56000 Miles	£3,995
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FORD

2006 56	Ford Galaxy Zetec Tdci 7 Seats Demo+1 Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 63000 Miles	£7,995
2008 08	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 16v 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 70325 Miles	£4,295
2004 04	Ford Focus C-Max Ghia 1.8 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 79,425 Miles	£3,495
2004 53	Ford Focus C-Max 1.8 Zetec 53 Reg Petrol 5-Speed Manual 63649 Miles	£3,295
2004 04	Ford Focus C-Max Zetec 5 DOOR MPV Petrol 5-Speed Manual 83808 Miles	£3,295
2006 06	Ford Transit Connect T200 L Swb NO VAT Turbo Diesel 5-Speed Manual 96440 Miles	£3,295
2005 55	Ford Fiesta Style 5dr 1.25 5 DOOR Petrol 5-Speed Manual 86126 Miles	£2,995
2001 Y	Ford Galaxy Zetec 16v 2.3 petrol, manual 113,800 miles	£2,295
1999 S	Ford Focus LX 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 81880 Miles	£1,895
2002 52	Ford Ka Ka 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 41644 Miles	£1,795
2000 W	Ford Focus Zetec 3dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 105000 Miles	£1,695

HONDA

2007 07	Honda Civic 1.8 SE I-TEC 5dr Petrol 6-Speed Manual 88620 Miles	£4,995
2007 56	Honda Jazz Dsi SE 5dr 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 53640 Miles	£4,695
2005 05	Honda Jazz Dsi SE 5dr 1.3 - ONLY £125 TAX A YEAR Petrol 5-Speed Manual 77750 Miles	£3,895

KIA

2004 54	Kia Picanto GS 5dr 1.0 - £30 A YEAR TAX Petrol 5-Speed Manual 34490 Miles	£2,995
2005 05	Kia Picanto LX 5dr 1.1 - £105 A YEAR TAX Petrol 5-Speed Manual 51470 Miles	£2,795

LAND ROVER

2004 04	Land Rover Freelander S Station Wagon Petrol 5-Speed Manual 92146 Miles	£3,995
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MAZDA

2001 51	Mazda MX-5 Convertible 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 84227 Miles	£2,895
2003 S	Mazda Mazda6 6 Ts2 Auto Petrol Automatic 56240 Miles	£2,695

MERCURY

2000 A	Grand Marquis All Texan Petrol Automatic 64000 Miles	£5,995
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MINI

2000 W	Rover Mini Cooper I 2 Door Saloon Petrol 48000 Miles	£5,495
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MITSUBISHI

2010 10	Mitsubishi Lancer Ralliart Gsr 5dr HATCH Turbo 28000 Miles	£10,495
2003 53	Mitsubishi Outlander 2.4 Sport SE Petrol Automatic 80860 Miles	£3,995
2005 55	Mitsubishi Colt 1.3 Elegance 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 69760 Miles	£3,295
2005 05	Mitsubishi Colt 1.3 Equipe 5dr, Petrol 5-Speed Manual 76250 Miles	£2,995

NISSAN

2007 57	Nissan Note 1.6 Tekna Petrol Automatic 77465 Miles	£4,595
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PEUGEOT

2006 56	Peugeot 207 Sport 3dr 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 56480 Miles	£3,795
2007 07	Peugeot 207 3dr 1.4 S Petrol 5-Speed Manual 82275 Miles	£3,295
2005 05	Peugeot 307 Quiksilver SE 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 67830 Miles	£2,995
2006 55	Peugeot 407 SW SE, Petrol 6-Speed Manual 103840 Miles	£2,795
2002 52	Peugeot 206 SW XT 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 54890 Miles	£2,495
2000 W	Peugeot 106 1.1 Zest 2 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 64015 Miles	£1,295

PORSCHE

2002 52	Porsche Boxster 24v 2.7 Ready to go! Petrol 5-Speed Manual 111210 Miles	£5,995
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RENAULT

2007 07	Renault Megane 1.6 Dynamique VVT Petrol 5-Speed Manual 34870 Miles	£4,995
2007 07	Renault Megane Privilege VVT 1.6, Petrol 5-Speed Manual 49700 Miles	£4,795
2007 56	Renault MeganeDynamique VVT 1.6, Petrol 5-Speed Manual 57880 Miles	£4,495
2005 05	Renault Modus 1.4 Dynamique 16v 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 57305 Miles	£3,295
2005 05	Renault Scenic Dynamique 16v 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 54250 Miles	£3,295
2003 03	Renault Kangoo Authentique dCi Wheelchair Ramp Turbo Diesel 5-Speed Manual 65700 Miles	£2,995
2004 04	Renault Scenic Privilege 16v 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 71650 Miles	£2,695
2003 53	Renault Clio Dynamique Billabong 1.4 16v 3dr, Petrol 5-Speed Manual 60,310 miles	£2,295

SUZUKI

2005 55	Suzuki Swift GLX Vvts 5dr - TAXED TILL END AUG 14 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 82230 Miles	£3,795
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TOYOTA

2007 07	Toyota RAV-4 XT3 D-4D 2.2 Diesel 6-Speed Manual 95050 Miles	£7,295
2005 05	Toyota RAV-4 Xt3 VVT-I 2.0 Auto g Petrol Automatic 76294 Miles	£5,795
2003 03	Toyota RAV-4 Gx VVT-I Petrol 5-Speed Manual 72244 Miles	£4,695
2005 05	Toyota Corolla Verso T2 VVT-I 7 SEATS Petrol Automatic 79000 Miles	£4,295
2001 Y	Toyota Previa GS 8-Seats VVT-I Petrol 5-Speed Manual 97795 Miles	£3,695
2002 52	Toyota Yaris 1.0 Colour Collection VVT-I 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 58410 Mile	£2,695

VAUXHALL

2009 59	Vauxhall Corsa Active 3dr 1.0 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 14990 Miles	£5,695
2007 07	Vauxhall Zafira Life 16v 1.6 - FINANCE AVAILABLE Petrol 5-Speed Manual 71960 Miles	£4,795
2005 55	Vauxhall Zafira Club 16v 7 SEATS Petrol 5-Speed Manual 78414 Miles	£4,395
2007 07	Vauxhall Tigra Exclusive 1.8 16v Petrol 5-Speed Manual 36175 Miles	£4,295
2007 57	Vauxhall Vectra VVT SRI 5dr Superb example Petrol 5-Speed Manual 53562 Miles	£3,995
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2005 55	Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Life 16v Twinport Petrol 5-Speed Manual 85460 Miles	£3,495
2001 51	Vauxhall Zafira Elegance 16v AUTO 7 SEATER Petrol Automatic 134760 Miles	£1,895

VOLKSWAGEN

2006 56	Volkswagen Passat SE Fsi Auto Leather Petrol Automatic 47000 Miles	£6,495
2005 M	Volkswagen Golf SE1.9 TDi 5dr Turbo Diesel 5-Speed Manual 85100 Miles	£5,395
2002 02	Volkswagen Beetle 8v 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 78,450 miles	£3,395
2002 52	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 S 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 74035 Miles	£2,695

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11 60 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL SPORT, 5dr, frozen white/grey titanium, sat nav, Bluetooth, USB, rear park sensors, a/c, alloys, HFS, auto wipers & headlamps, front fogs, e/front windows & mirrors, ABS, 6 airbags, one owner, FSH, 33,500 miles



£8,995

11 11 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 115PS ZETEC, 3dr, colorado red/grey, e/w&m, c/l, Blue tooth USB, air con, 5 spd, ABS, ESP, front fogs, HFS, DAB radio/CD, alloys, PAS, 6 airbags, a/c, FSH, one owner from new, very low mileage 27,638 miles



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09 09 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, strobe met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD 2 a/b, ABS, 2 local owners, FSH, only £30 12 months RFL, 53,400 miles



£6,995

09 09 FIAT DOBLO DYNAMIC ESTATE 1.4 8V PETROL, 5dr, single wheel chair conversion, 3 SEATS, met red/grey, 5spd, PAS, c/l, access ramp & winch, r/

MONDEO

10 60 MONDEO TITANIUM 2.0 PETROL 1.4PS TITANIUM, 5spd, 5 dr, chill met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio CD, heated screen, climate control, front fogs, alloys, ABS, ESP, cruise, front & rear park sensors, PAS, 7 a/b, auto lights/wipers, B'tooth, service history, one owner from new, 35,814 miles. £8,495

FOCUS

- 10 10 FOCUS 1.6 TDCI 110PS 5DR 5SPD ZETEC**, panther black met/grey, ew&m, c/l, front fogs, PAS, a/c, HFS, alloys, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, rear park sensors, 2 owners from new, £30RFL per year, 17,696 miles. £8,995
- 12 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS AUTOMATIC 6 SPD ZETEC**, 5dr, moon dust silver/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio & CD, Blue tooth, PAS, a/c, alloys, HFS, front fogs, 6 airbags, ESP, ABS, FSH, one owner from new, very low mileage 3,495 miles. £12,695
- 09 09 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL TITANIUM AUTO**, 5dr, moon dust silver/grey, e/w&m, cruise control, auto lights & wipers, c/l, alloys, DAB radio/CD, climate, HFS, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, 2 owners from new, very low mileage, FSH, 14,055 miles. £7,595
- 06 56 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL ZETEC CLIMATE**, 5 dr, tonic blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, a/c, HFS, front fogs, 6 airbags, ABS, 2 owners from new, service history, 67,747 miles. £4,795
- 11 11 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 115PS ZETEC**, 3dr, colorado red/grey, e/w&m, c/l, Blue tooth USB, air con, 5 spd, ABS, ESP, front fogs, HFS, DAD radio/CD, alloys, PAS, 6 airbags, a/c, FSH, one owner from new, very low mileage 27,638 miles. £8,995
- 11 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS ZETEC**, 5dr, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio & CD, PAS, Blue tooth, alloys, front fogs, heated windscreen, ABS, ESP, 29,000 miles. £10,395
- 08 08 FOCUS 1.8 PETROL 125PS STYLE**, 5dr, panther black/grey, c/l, r/CD, e/w&m, PAS, a/c, front fogs, 6 airbags, ESP, 2 owners from new, service history, 53,446 miles. £5,595
- 12 61 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 125PS ZETEC ESTATE**, colorado red/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB r/CD, alloys, a/c, ABS, ESP, HFS, 6 airbags, Blue tooth USB, rear park sensors, 12 months manufacturers warranty, one owner from new, FSH, 17,900 miles. £11,995
- 11 60 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL SPORT**, 5dr, frozen white/grey titanium, sat nav, Bluetooth, USB, rear park sensors, a/c, alloys, HFS, auto wipers & headlamps, front fogs, e/front windows & mirrors, ABS, 6 airbags, one owner, FSH, 33,500 miles. £8,995
- 13 63 FOCUS 1.0 100PS PETROL ZETEC NAVIGATOR NEW MODEL**, 5dr, deep impact blue met/grey, sat nav, B'tooth & USB, e/w & m, 17" alloys, privacy glass, ABS, EP, reverse park sensors, 6 airbags, 2 years old and 9 months manufacturer's warranty, only £20 RFL per year, 3,413 miles. £13,995

FUSION

10 60 FUSION 1.4 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, moon dust silver met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, r/CD, 2 airbags, PAS, HFS, alloys, ABS, air con, one owner from new, low mileage 19,300 miles. £7,795

C MAX S MAX B MAX

- 12 12 GRAND C MAX 1.6 TDCI 115PS DIESEL ZETEC 7 SEATER MPV**, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, heated windscreen, 6 spd, DAB radio & CD, PAS, c/l, ABS, ESP, Blue tooth, rear park sensors, 6 airbags, alloys, very low mileage 4,228 miles, one owner from new, FSH. £13,995
- 12 12 S MAX 1.6T ECOBOOST 160PS TITANIUM**, panther black met/grey, 6spd, e/w&m, r/CD, c/l, Blue tooth connectivity, HFS, climate, auto lights & wipers, front fogs, cruise, PAS, one owner, full service history, very low mileage 6,200 miles. SOLD
- 11 11 C MAX 1.6 PETROL 125PS TITANIUM**, micastone met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated windscreen, PAS, auto lights & wipers, ABS, ESP, convenience pack inc. park assist & fold mirrors, global closing, alloys, very low mileage 5,500 miles, one owner, FSH. £11,995
- 13 13 B MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS**, 5 dr, midnight sky/grey, 5 spd, City pack, e/w&m, Ford Sync, power folding mirrors, rear park sensors, HFS, ABS, multiple airbags, alloys, ex-demonstrator, low mileage 8,800 miles, RFL £30 per year. £12,995

KA

- 10 60 KA TITANIUM 1.2**, petrol, 3dr, moonlight silver met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, climate, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, fr fogs, alloys, 2 a/bags, ABS, 2 owners from new, only £30 RFL/year, 34,827 miles. £6,995
- 09 09 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, strobe met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD 2 a/b, ABS, 2 local owners, FSH, only £30 12 months RFL, 53,400 miles. £4,795
- 13 63 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, flame red/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, delivery mileage only 6 miles, RFL only £30 for 12 months, 3 years manufacturers warranty. £7,995
- 13 63 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL**, 3dr, crystal white/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, delivery mileage only 6 miles, RFL only £30 for 12 months, 3 years manufacturers warranty. £8,195

FIESTA

- 11 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS**, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, 5 airbags, aircon, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner from new, FSH, 35,948 miles. £8,595
- 10 60 FIESTA TITANIUM 1.4 PETROL 96PS**, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, cruise control, 5 airbags, alloys, radio/CD, ABS, ESP, PAS, climate, one owner from new, low mileage 15,000 miles, FSH. £8,995

OTHER MAKES

- 09 59 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 1.6 AUTO**, petrol, 5dr, safari gold, grey/red trim, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, alloys, a/c, front fogs, 6 a/b, ABS, B'tooth, s/history, 2 owners from new, v low mileage 11,521. £7,595
- 09 09 FIAT DOBLO DYNAMIC ESTATE 1.4 8V PETROL**, 5dr, single wheel chair conversion, 3 SEATS, met red/grey, 5spd, PAS, c/l, access ramp & winch, r/CD, a/c, alloys, a airbags, e/w&m, TWO LOCAL OWNERS FROM NEW, VERY LOW MILEAGE 3,682 miles. £6,995
- 07 57 VW POLO 1.2E 60PS**, 3dr, blue met/grey, 5 spd, c/l, r/C, PAS, 2 airbags, ABS, low insurance group, RFL 12 months £125, FSH, 57,927 miles. £4,395

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- 04 54 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL LX HATCH**, tonic blue met/grey, 5 spd, a/c, PAS, e/w, heated front screen, alloys, r/CD, 4 airbags, ABS, 2 owners from new, 76,474 miles. £3,495
- 03 53 FOCUS GHIA 2.0 PETROL AUTO ESTATE**, deep rosso red met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r & 6 CD player, PAS, climate, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 4 airbags, ABS, traction control, 3 owners from new, service history, low mileage for age 73,281 miles. £3,495

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- 12 PLATE KA 1.2 PETROL STUDIO**, 3dr, sunrise red/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, one owner from new, service history
- 63 PLATE FOCUS 1.6 PETROL 5DR TITANIUM**, 6 spd, powershift automatic, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, cruise & climate control, auto lights & wipers, front fogs, alloys, HFS, one owner from new, very low mileage, 2 years manufacturer's warranty
- 13 PLATE FOCUS 1.0T PETROL 100PS 5DR TITANIUM**, 5 spd, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, cruise + climate control, auto lights & wipers, front fogs, alloys, HFS, one owner from new, low mileage, 2 years manufacturer's warranty
- 11 PLATE FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC 5DR DIESEL**, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, one owner from new, 9 months manufacturer's warranty, only £30RFL per year
- 11 PLATE FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR PETROL**, panther black met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, one local owner from new, very low mileage
- 59 PLATE SEAT ALTEA 19 TDCI S EMOCION MPV 5 SPD DIESEL**, silver met/grey, e/w&m, low mileage, service history, one owner from new



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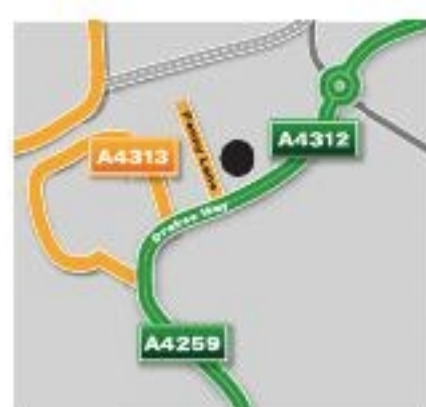
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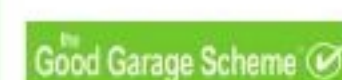
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Newport rally to end U's unbeaten away record

Tricky first day of testing for Williams

WILLIAMS F1 endured a difficult first day to the second pre-season test in Bahrain yesterday, after a problem with the fuel system cost the team several hours of running.

Felipe Massa only managed a total of five laps during the day and did not set a lap time.

The best time of the session of 1:36.880 was achieved by Force India driver Nico Hulkenberg, ahead of Fernando Alonso's Ferrari and Lewis Hamilton's Mercedes.

"It was a difficult day," said Massa. "It was frustrating for me but also for the whole team as we all wanted to get lots of laps on the board today."

"We had a few issues with the car which we are investigating and aim to solve for tomorrow and the following days."

"We know the most important thing is to get mileage on the car, so we hope to do that and get everything we want through until the end of next week."

Chief test and support engineer Rod Nelson added: "We were able to get some laps in at the end of the day, and aim [today] to get through as much of our planned running as possible."

Valtteri Bottas takes over testing duties for today's running, with the test continuing until Saturday.

OXFORD United's long-standing unbeaten away league record was finally brought to an end on Tuesday night with a 3-2 defeat at Newport County.

As the only professional team not to be beaten on their travels this season, United's away record, which stood at 14 games, had started to look fragile in recent weeks.

Draws at Exeter, Bury and Bristol Rovers were subtle hints that it was more when not if the run would come to an end.

And on Tuesday night, United were outplayed by Newport, who have only lost twice at home all season.

"The better team won without a shadow of a doubt," said caretaker manager Mickey Lewis.

"But listen it's one defeat in nine and I think sometimes you have to be calm and look at the bigger picture."

"You want the away record to keep going but we did say before the game that this might be our toughest test and it proved to be."

James Constable scored his 105th goal for the club to put United ahead against the run of play on 14 minutes.

However, Newport equalised on the stroke of half-time in rather fortuitous circumstances as Lee Minshull's

By Jack Johnson

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shot deflected off Rene Howe and past the stranded Ryan Clarke.

Ryan Burge put County ahead in the second half and a mix-up between Clarke and Johnny Mullins provided Chris Zebroski with an easy tap-in.

United pushed forward and grabbed a way back in to the match through Alfie Potter but it proved to be just a consolation.

Lewis added: "We're disappointed with the performance."

"Perhaps it was one of those nights, summed up by the third goal."

"If you don't concede the third goal, and again I stress we didn't deserve anything from the game, we might nick a draw but that's the way it goes."

"We've just got to dust ourselves down and move on quickly."

United are still third in the Sky Bet League Two table and will look to bounce back when they travel to Morecambe this Saturday.

Lewis will hope Danny Rose can recover from illness after the midfielder was forced off at half-time on Tuesday while Dave Kitson (hamstring) is a doubt.



• Mickey Lewis (Picture by Steve Daniels)

We have had a tough run of games, says manager Ford

OXFORD City boss Mike Ford wants his side to keep up the good performances ahead of an important period in their Skrill North campaign.

City were beaten 2-1 at league leaders North Ferriby United last Saturday and are currently third from bottom in the table, four points adrift of safety.

However, City have three games in hand over 19th placed Stalybridge and recent performances have been positive.

Ford said: "The run of games we have had has been really difficult. I think people need to remember that."

"We've played the top side twice, we've played Barrow who are unbeaten in about three months and we have got to play them again this Saturday."

"We have also played Colwyn Bay, who had won six on the trot, and before that we played Solihull who were top."

"We haven't been disgraced in any of them and we've just got to remember that we produced good performances and have got to keep producing them in these really important games."

After City face Barrow on Saturday, they will play five teams in the bottom half in the space of four weeks.



• Mike Ford (Picture by Mike Allen)

Sport Bites

Hawks win

OXFORD Hawks hockey team picked up a much-needed win last Saturday, as they beat Sutton Valence 3-1 at home.

Sutton Valence opened the scoring, but two goals from Charlie Ellison and another from Matt Richardson earned Hawks a deserved victory.

Elsewhere, Oxford University Hockey Club's match with Eastbourne was postponed, after their 3-1 win against Bristol last Wednesday.

University are fifth in the South Premier Division 1 with 28 points, while Hawks are eighth with 21.

Hawks are scheduled to travel to Eastbourne on Saturday, while University make the trip to Spencer.

Staff wanted

BOTH Oxford Cavaliers rugby league teams are looking for new staff ahead of the new Southern Conference and West of England seasons, starting in April and May respectively.

Head coaches Glenn Tyreman and John Whitlow are looking for staff to coach once or twice a week during the summer, with most of the league games taking place between May and August.

Anyone interested in finding out more about coaching should contact Glenn on 07737 804769.

Stars are stunned by Pitbulls

OXFORD City Stars threw away a 3-0 lead against Bristol Pitbulls last weekend, eventually succumbing to a 5-3 loss on home ice.

Stars opened the scoring after just four minutes as Josh Oliver knocked the puck past Bristol netminder John Dibble.

No more goals came in the first period, but shots from Joe Oliver and Zach Dolphin in the second meant the home side were soon three ahead.

Pitbulls' fightback started in the 34th minute as Jordan Smith shot high in the corner to beat Stars keeper Ricky Young, and were soon only one behind with a goal just before the end of the second period.

They were level 35 seconds into the final period through a long distance shot from Alan Armour.

Four minutes from the end, Sam Shone broke the deadlock for the Pitbulls, and Adrian Smith added another in the dying seconds to steal an unlikely victory.

Despite the result, Stars remain top of the National Ice Hockey League South 2 with 25 points from 17 games.

Stars next play Slough Jets in the league cup on Sunday.

Harlequins make it a magnificent seven

OXFORD Harlequins have now won seven matches in succession in the South West 1 East league, following a 52-13 home win against Buckingham last Saturday.

Harlequins have won all but one match so far this season, and are comfortably top of the standings with 80 points from 18 games.

In the same division, Grove won their first game of 2014 as they triumphed 23-14 away to Maidenhead.

Grove are ninth in the league with 42 points, three points behind eighth-placed Devizes.

Harlequins next make the trip to Swindon on Saturday, while Grove host Buckingham.

Elsewhere, Henley Hawks' match away to Blaydon in the National League 1 was postponed due to the bad weather.

National League 2 South side Chinnor also didn't play at the weekend.

Hawks and Chinnor are both 13th in their respective leagues, with the latter not having played at all during February.

Chinnor are scheduled to host Clifton on Saturday, while Hawks are not in action until March 1 when they travel to Old Albanian.

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WE NEED TO ADD QUALITY

Manager Zoldan seeks to bolster frontline

ABINGDON United manager Andy Zoldan believes his side are still lacking quality at the top of the pitch after they were beaten 1-0 by Reading Town in the semi-finals of the Berks & Bucks Senior Trophy.

Graham Lewis lobbed Gareth Tucker with 15 minutes remaining to send Reading in to the final.

United's attentions will now turn back to the Hellenic Premier Division as they travel to Flackwell Heath this Saturday.

Zoldan's men were denied a win at home to Kidlington last weekend as Graham Edney's opener was cancelled out by Mike Duerden's stunning strike.

The U's boss is now calling for more quality in the final third and will be buoyed by the return of wingers Mark Threlfall and Gavin Jones who were cup-tied on Tuesday.

"Since I've been here, Graham Edney has put in with his share of goals," said Zoldan.

"It is a shame he is not getting any help from anybody else at the moment. He seems to be our main talisman."

By Jack Johnson

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"We've been creating chances but we're not putting them away which is quite frustrating."

"However, I do still feel we are lacking that little bit of quality in the final third, but this time of the season it is difficult to get players in that can give you that little bit more."

"With Threlfall available, he can do it, Graham Edney has shown he can do it and young Kieran Cochrane has got the ability to do it."

"If we retain the ball well enough in midfield, Murray Nicholls has got a lot in his locker and he can create things for us so we have got players there."

"I just think at times we don't create enough but that's the balance of trying to be defensive as well and not give too much away."

United are still second from bottom in the league table but a win at ninth-placed Flackwell could go along way towards an escape from relegation.

Third from bottom Holyport are only three points away, while Newbury and Shrivenham are only a point further up the table.



• Graham Edney in action for Abingdon United (Picture by Chris Janes)

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